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The Morning Astorian.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

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BATTLE BETWEEN BRITISH AND BOER AT BOLTON

Transvaalers Give Way Before Successive Charges, Leaving Many Dead and Wounded

BRITISH LOSS WAS VERY HEAVY

Many Prisoners With Horses and Cattle and Ammunition Cap- tured—The Particulars Meager—List of British Casualties.

LONDON, Nov. 24, 5 a. m.—Before the anxiety as to the situation in Natal had been relieved, there comes news of a great battle at Bolton. This has happened sooner than was expected.

Only the official account is yet to hand, but so far as can be gathered the fighting appears to have been almost a repetition of the battle of Elands Laagte.

A dispatch of the previous day estimated that the Boers in that vicinity numbered 2,000, and that they had five guns. Judging from the absence of any statement to the contrary in the official report, it is believed that the British were slightly superior in numbers to the enemy.

LONDON, Nov. 23.—The war office this evening issued a dispatch from Cape Town which is a brief diary of the events at Kimberley from November 12 to November 17. It shows that no serious engagement has occurred between those dates; that the British losses has been infinitesimal and that the Boer losses were also very small.

LONDON, Nov. 24.—The Boers chose their position at Belmont with their customary skill and were strongly entrenched. The British were obliged to carry three ridges in succession.

Apparently the Guards bore the brunt in carrying the last ridge by a bayonet charge after its defenders had been shaken with Shrapnel.

Nothing is said in the official dispatch as to whether the positions so gained were held and the destruction of the Boer ammunition seems to indicate that the contrary was the case.

While General Methuen can be congratulated upon a brilliant victory, it is again at the cost of a heavy loss of officers and men. The situation in Natal remains obscure. Fighting is reported at both Estcourt and Ladysmith.

What is quite certain is that Ladysmith, Estcourt and Mool river station are all isolated and the Boers seem able after detaching enough troops to hold the British forces, aggregating fully 12,000 men, to push on toward Pietermaritzburg with some 7,000 men.

The disquieting feature of the whole campaign is the fact that all the advancing generals report meeting Boers in force.

General Gatacre's report that the Dutch are rising, also increases public anxiety.

Late last night it was asserted at Aldershot that the sixth division now in process of mobilization will actually be required for active service.

THE OFFICIAL ACCOUNT.

Boers Driven From Three Ridges, Losing Heavily, in Men, Animals and Ammunition—British Losses.

LONDON, Nov. 23.—The war office has received the following dispatch through General Forester-Walker, from General Methuen, dated Belmont, Nov. 23:

"I attacked the enemy at daybreak this morning. He was in a strong position. Three ridges were carried in succession, the last attack being prepared by Shrapnel.

"The infantry behaved splendidly and received good support from the naval brigade and artillery. The enemy fought with courage and skill, and had I attacked later I should have sustained a heavy loss.

"Our victory was complete. We have taken 40 prisoners and we are burying a good number of Boers, but the greater part of the enemy's killed and wounded

to Cape Town for the purpose of ascertaining the terms upon which immediate cessation of hostilities could be secured are discredited here, and it is said that if such a deputation has been sent it will meet with scant courtesy, as those who are conducting the war will be satisfied with nothing less than dictating the terms of peace at Pretoria, after a parade of British strength through the Transvaal.

Meanwhile, from the scanty and emasculated dispatches which are dribbling from the front, it is difficult to The Boer invaders are occasioning concern an opinion of the true situation, stand surprised. They have already cut off two portions of the Ladysmith relieving force from their base of supplies, and with great rapidity are advancing on Pietermaritzburg with howitzers and other artillery. General Cleary's situation, it would appear, must be becoming intolerable, so serious fighting may be expected at any time, as it is pointed out the general must clear his line of communications in order to complete the concentration of the relieving force.

According to the latest reports from Natal, the artillery duel was recommenced this morning at the Mool river. The statement that the British garrison there is only acting on the defensive appears to be an admission of weakness, and it is thought the troops may be at the mercy of the strong Boer force reported in that neighborhood.

A collision may also be expected on the western frontier within 48 hours, if it is true that Methuen has started northward, as he is certain to meet entrenched Boers at Belmont and Mool river. It is reported Mafeking is suffering from lack of water and that fever or is rife there.

Advisors from Lorenzo Marquez say the Transvaal recruiting agents have been visiting steamers and have succeeded in enlisting three passengers from the German steamer Kaiser. A force of Portuguese police have gone to Galsland where the natives are acting in a threatening manner, the stores at Koomatpoort having been looted.

The British transports Pavonia and Cephalonia arrived at Durban today with about 200 troops, making the total arrivals of the first division 11,600 men. Another 4,000 men are expected in a few days.

The admiral announces that the First dragoons left Cape Town today for Durban to reinforce General Clary's force, whose advance is delayed by lack of cavalry.

DEWEY AGAIN IS HIMSELF

CHICAGO'S DEEP SYMPATHY

If He Will Exhibit in That Town It Is Promised He Shall Find None But Friends.

CHICAGO, Nov. 23.—The Chicago Dewey Committee, owing to recent criticism of Admiral Dewey in connection with the transfer of his home, decided today to urge an early acceptance of Chicago's invitation to the admiral to visit this city.

The date of the visit is named as May 1, next year, and in the committee's communication to the admiral he is assured that Chicago citizens do not approve of the storm of criticism recently raised.

DEWEY ACCEPTS.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—"Yes," said Admiral Dewey today, "I have received today a telegram from the mayor of Chicago, supplementing a letter of the Dewey committee of that city, inviting me to visit there on the first of May. You may say that all things being equal, and barring any unlooked for circumstances, I shall accept the invitation to visit that city on the first of May.

"No I don't care to make any observations on the criticisms which have arisen as the result of the transfer of my property than those to which I have already given public expression. Enough has already been said and I now want to live quiet and peaceably."

INTERESTING CEREMONY.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Nov. 23.—This morning the exercises of dedicating the 107 monuments and markers of the state of Illinois on battlefields surrounding the city were held at Orchard Knob, the site made famous during the civil war as headquarters for General Grant.

NOME SAND AT 'FRISCO.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 23.—The steamer Albatron, which arrived from Cape Nome today, brought down a large quantity of gold bearing sand from the Nome beach.

HARD FIGHTING WITH FILIPINOS NEAR PAVIA

Successive Rebel Entrenchments Attacked by Artillery and Carried by Infantry.

AMERICAN LOSS NOT GIVEN, BUT HEAVY

Enemy Forced Back and Being Surrounded by Separate Detach- ments of Our Troops—The Charleston a Total Loss.

MANILA, Nov. 23.—Col. Carpenter on Nov. 18, advanced to Santabarbara, straight north from Jaro, taking trench after trench, the enemy fighting and retreating.

General Hughes' column has steadily been advancing north to gain a position west of Santabarbara. He encountered the enemy in small detachments. Six to ten Americans were wounded in this column.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—A cablegram received at the navy department today from the commander of the United States naval station at Cavite, indicates that there is no hope of saving the wrecked cruiser Charleston.

MANILA, Nov. 23.—Colonel Carpenter started in on the rebels during the night of November 20 and opened with battery G, Sixth artillery, at daybreak, November 21, on the trenches.

The enemy volleyed as the artillery took up its position, wounding four. Two companies of the 26th regiment garrisoning at Jaro, moved to Capas attacking the enemy on the right flank just north of Jaro at daybreak, November 21, driving them towards Colonel Carpenter.

The country between Jaro, and Santa Barbara is thickly entrenched, especially near Pavia. The Sixth artillery fired on the trenches and the 18th infantry charged, the enemy retreating to the next trench. The 18th again charged, encountering and attacking the force of Boimers who were hidden in

the long grass and who severely wounded several Americans. During the afternoon of November 21, fighting was severe immediately south of Pavia, three miles north of Jaro. The enemy's loss was not obtainable but seven men were found dead in one trench. The insurgents are falling back on Santa Barbara, which it is expected General Hughes has attacked before this morning.

FIGHTING AT ILO ILO.

MANILA, Nov. 23.—10:50 p. m.—Severe fighting north of Ilo Ilo began November 21. Four Americans were killed and 25 wounded, including three officers. The insurgents are retreating to Santa Barbara, but the fighting continues.

THE YUKON DROWNING.

SEATTLE, Nov. 23.—Further but meagre advices of the drowning, November 11, of five people in the Yukon above Ogilvie in the ice jam were received by the steamer City of Seattle tonight.

The dead are: Two McNamara brothers, Kelly, Mrs. Drumblon and Mrs. Rundall.

No initials or anything further tending to establish the identity of any of the unfortunates were learned.

ORGANIZATION THAT WAS.

BOSTON, Nov. 23.—The general assembly, Knights of Labor, passed resolutions today condemning combinations and trusts and the attitude of the government toward labor in Cuba and in Wardner, Idaho, and characterizing President McKinley as the bitter enemy of labor, urging laboring men to vote against him and his associates. A resolution opposing efforts to subjugate the Philippines was adopted.

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